

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 OES-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
/096 W

-----051122Z 010165 /23

R 050550Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2416  
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USINT BAGHDAD  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3967

OE 11652: XGDS-1, DECONTROL AFTER 1995  
TAGS: PFOR, IR, UR, AF, IQ  
SUBJ: NATURE OF SOVIET THREAT AS PERCEIVED BY GOI

1. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION DURING HIS BRIEFING OF  
VISITING NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY GROUP MAY 3, FONMIN  
KHALATBARY DESCRIBED GOI PERCEPTION OF THE SOVIET THREAT.  
HE SAID THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF AN OPEN SOVEIT INVASION  
IRAN SINCE, FOR MANY REASONS, THAT WOULD RESULT IN A  
WIDER WORLD CONFLICT. ON THE CONTRARY, HOWEVER, IRAN  
MUST BE PREPARED FOR POTENTIAL INDIRECT AGGRESSION BY  
SOVIET FRIENDS SUCH AS IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, WHICH COULD  
CATCH IRAN IN A PINCERS. THOUGH IRAQ IS ONLY ONE-THIRD  
AS LARGE AS IRAN, ITS ARMED FORCES ARE EQUAL TO IRAN IN  
STRENGTH OR PERHAPS STRONGER. AFGHANISTAN'S ARMED FORCES  
ARE SUPPLIED BY THE SOVIET UNION AND AFGHAN OFFICERS  
TRAINED BY THE SOVIETS. IT IS LOGICAL THAT IRAN SEEK TO  
MAINTAIN SUFFICIENT STRENGTH TO COUNTER THESE THREATS.

2. COMMENT: THESE REMARKS IN NO WAY DEPART FROM KNOWN  
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GOI THINKING, BUT WILL BE A USEFUL RESTATEMENT FOR THE  
RECORD.

3. FOR KABUL: INTERESTINGLY, IN DISCUSSING IRAN'S  
BROADER RELATIONSHIP WITH AFGHANISTAN, KHALATBARY SPOKE  
OF IRAN'S DISAPPOINTMENT OVER AFGHANISTAN'S LACK OF A  
SUFFICIENTLY FRIENDLY RESPONSE TO IRANIAN AID OFFERS

(WHICH HE NOTED HAD BEEN EXTENDED ONLY AT AFGHANISTAN'S REQUEST IN THE FIRST PLACE), BUT MADE NO MENTION OF CURRENT DIFFICULTIES OVER THE HELMAND WATERS. AT VERY LEAST, THIS WOULD SUGGEST GOI HAS NOT GIVEN UP ON NEGOTIATION AS A MEANS OF RESOLVING PROBLEMS OF WATER AND IS NOT YET INTERESTED IN PUBLICIZING ITS DIFFERENCES WITH AFGHANISTAN ON THE ISSUE.

MIKLOS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** THREATS, INVASIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TEHRAN03967  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770157-1271  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c7d28a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2623417  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATURE OF SOVIET THREAT AS PERCEIVED BY GOI  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IR, UR, AF, (KHALATBARI, ABBAS ALI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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